



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

**REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK**

12400 IMPERIAL HWY. – P.O. BOX 1024, NORWALK, CALIFORNIA 90651-1024

May 31, 2002

TO: EACH SUPERVISOR

FROM: Conny B. McCormack, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

**UPDATE ON PROPOSITION 41 FUNDING ALLOCATION PROCESS FOR VOTING SYSTEM MODERNIZATION**

The passage of Proposition 41 at the March 5, 2002 election established a \$200 million bond program for voting system modernization. The language of this proposition states that decisions regarding criteria for application for funds and the formula or criteria for funding allocation will be the responsibility of a five-member Voting Modernization Board (VMB) consisting of three appointees by the Governor and two by the Secretary of State (SOS).

Although the VMB has not yet been constituted (the SOS recently made his two appointments but the Governor has not yet announced his selections), the Secretary of State has made preliminary plans to convene the first meeting of the VMB on June 6, 2002 assuming at least one of the Governor's appointees has been selected in order to have a quorum. The Secretary of State wants the VMB to move quickly in order to make funding available to counties beginning this fall.

In preparation for funding allocation decisions, the SOS requested all counties submit a pre-application by June 5, 2002 in order to compile preliminary numbers based on estimates provided by counties that plan to request funds. We submitted a pre-application yesterday (copy attached). I have been advised by the Elections Director of the SOS that although all counties have not yet submitted pre-applications, the financial requests to date exceed \$300 million for a fund that is limited to \$200 million. Therefore, the VMB's decisions regarding funding allocation criteria will be crucial to determining the amount of funds the County can anticipate from this bond measure. As one of the nine California counties under federal court order to replace our punch card voting system in advance of the 2004 elections, we are striving for recognition of our needs for funding to implement a phased-in approach to new voting system installation.

Attached is additional information received late today from the SOS outlining key issues and decision items for the VMB to consider once it is constituted and begins to meet regarding allocation of Proposition 41 funds. I or Chief Deputy Kris Heffron will be in attendance at the first meeting of the VMB whether it is held next week or at a later date. I will keep you apprised as this process unfolds.

Attachments

C: CAO  
CIO  
County Counsel